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Message Text

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PAGE 01 VIENNA 08029 060806Z
ACTION AF-10

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FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3196
INFO AMEMBASSY MONROVIA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENNA 8029

FROM AMBASSADOR CARTER

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: OGEN, US, LI
SUBJECT: GOALS AND OBJECTIVES FOR AMBASSADORS: LIBERIA

REF: STATE 209413-C

1. FOLLOWING ARE OUR SUGGESTED CHANGES TO REFTEL.

2. FOSTERING BILATERAL INTERESTS

--EMPHASIZE THE CLOSE US-LIBERIAN RELATIONS BASED ON LONGSTANDING POLITICAL, ECONOMIC AND HISTORIC TIES.

--ENCOURAGE HIGH-LEVEL US OFFICIALS TO VISIT LIBERIA ON THEIR TRIPS THROUGH AFRICA.

--MAINTAIN THE STRONG FEELING OF MUTUALITY OF INTERESTS BETWEEN LIBERIA AND THE UNITED STATES WHICH ENABLES THE USG (A) TO HAVE STRATEGIC ACCESS IN TIMES OF NATIONAL

EMERGENCY TO BORERTS INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, TO THE PORT OF MONROVIA, AND TO US SHIPS UNDER LIBERIAN REGISTRY; AND (B) TO MAINTAIN ON LIBERIAN SOIL A DIPLOMATIC CONFIDENTIAL

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COMMUNICATIONS FACILITY WHICH SERVICES MOST OF OUR DIPLOMATIC POSTS IN AFRICA AND SOME NEIGHBORING AREAS;

AND A VOA RELAY STATION BROADCASTING TO AFRICA AND OTHER AREAS.

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--EXTEND SUPPORT AND ASSISTANCE TO US BUSINESS WHICH
HAS INVESTED HEAVILY IN LIBERIA, PARTICULARLY IN KEY
NATURAL RESOURCE PROCESSING SUCH AS IRON ORE AND
RUBBER.

--MAINTAIN THE CLOSE AND MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL
RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN THE US MILITARY MISSION/LIBERIA
AND THE DEFENSE AUTHORITIES OF THE REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA,
WORKING WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF EXPECTED READJUSTMENTS
IN THE ORGANIZATION OF OUR MILITARY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.

--WORK TO RESOLVE DIFFERENCES IN MARITIME MATTERS,
PARTICULARLY TO GAIN LIBERIAN ACCEPTANCE OF THE
ADMINISTRATION'S POSITION ON CARGO-PREFERENCE LEGISLATION
AND TO REDUCE TO A MINIMUM ANY FRICTION RESULTING FROM
COMPETITION WITH THE LIBERIANS FOR A CATEGORY A SEAT IN
THE IMCO COUNCIL.

--ENCOURAGE THE MAINTENANCE AND CONTINUED DEVELOPMENT
OF LIBERIA'S DEMOCRATIC FORM OF GOVERNMENT WITH ITS
POSITIVE RECORD ON HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES.

--FACILITATE THE CONCLUSION OF A MORE MODERN CONSULAR
CONVENTION TO REPLACE THE 1939 CONVENTION.

ACHIEVE A MUTUALLY SATISFACTORY AGREEMENT ON
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NEGOTIATONS TO MODERNIZE OUR 1939 BILATERAL AIR
AGREEMENT.

--REACH A WORKING AGREEMENT WITH THE LIBERIAN GOVERNMENT
WHICH WILL RECONFIRM OFFICIALLY THE STATUS OF
THE AMERICAN COOPERATIVE SCHOOL.

3. SUPPORTING LIBERIA'S NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

--MONITOR THE SUBSTANTIAL LEVEL OF US AID, INCLUDING
THE PEACE CORPS PROGRAM, AND ENSURE ITS CONSISTENCY WITH
LIBERIA'S NEEDS AND ABILITY TO ABSORB THIS ASSISTANCE.

--REVITALIZE THE US EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL FOUNDATION
IN MONROVIA TO MEET MORE FULLY LIBERIA'S NEEDS. WOLF

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